



city of
greenville

News Release

DISTRACTED DRIVING ORDINANCE GOES INTO EFFECT TOMORROW

(Greenville SC) The City of Greenville's distracted driving ordinance, which City Council passed on February 10, goes into effect tomorrow. As a reminder, the ordinance bans the use of all handheld devices while operating a vehicle. This includes not only while the vehicle is in motion, but also while the vehicle is temporarily stopped due to traffic, a traffic control device or other delays.

Drivers are permitted to use mobile devices while operating a vehicle, as long as they can be used hands free. In this case, hands free means that the driver is not holding a mobile device up to or near his or her ear to talk or listen, and that the driver is not holding a mobile device in his or her hand and manipulating the keyboard or the screen.

Signs have been installed at entrances to the city, and motorists should begin noticing billboards with reminders of the ordinance in various locations in the city. Additionally, for those who are still unsure what is permitted, a video version of frequently asked questions is available on the City's web site.

Tomorrow also marks the start of Distracted Driving Awareness Month, and as part of its campaign to raise awareness about the new ordinance, the City is asking citizens to change their Facebook profile picture to the City's distracted driving logo (attached) for one week. Over the next month, the City will debut a series of PSAs featuring a variety of familiar local personalities, as well as elected officials and members of the City's Youth Commission. To see the PSAs, follow the City on Facebook at facebook.com/cityofgreenvillesc and on Twitter at #PutItDownGvl.

For more information about the distracted driving ordinance, including the FAQ video, visit <http://www.greenvillesc.gov/CityCouncil/DistractedDriving.aspx>.

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